

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

AUGUST 31, 1999

FROM: JAMES F. WHITE, DIRECTOR
PRESCHOOL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENTS WITH LAIDLAW TRANSIT, INC. PY 1999-2000

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the following Preschool Services Department (PSD) agreements with Laidlaw Transit, Inc. for transportation services for the Head Start/State Preschool program for PY 1999-2000:

<u>PSD Agreement Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3000-9	\$47,845
3005-9	<u>\$1,857,010</u>
	\$1,904,855

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On May 25, 1999, the Board of Supervisors approved the 1999-2000 continuing grant application for San Bernardino County's Preschool Services Department Head Start/State Preschool Program, now about to begin its thirty-fifth year of operation. The PSD continuing grant application is funded by the Federal Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families (HHS/ACF) and the California State Department of Education, Child Development Division (SDE/CDD). The program provides comprehensive child development services to low income preschool aged children and their families throughout the County.

These agreements will provide transportation services for 3,567 children from designated pick-up points to Head Start /State Preschool centers, and return to those designated points, throughout the county each day of operation. Areas to be served are Apple Valley, Barstow, San Bernardino, Chino, Cucamonga, Fontana, Hesperia, Highland, Joshua Tree, Newberry Springs, Ontario, Redlands, Rialto, 29 Palms, Upland, Yucaipa, and Yucca Valley. Agreement number 3000-9 in the amount of \$47,845 is funded by the SDE/CDD and agreement number 3005-9 in the amount of \$1,857,010 is funded by the HHS/ACF. The two separate agreements are a result of funding requirements and audit requests.

A planned Request for Proposal (RFP) process for these services was postponed until November, 1999, due to the amount of time required to conduct a thorough process, and the need to provide transportation services before an RFP process could be completed. The RFP process takes at least nine months to complete. When PSD realized that it couldn't complete the process before classes began in September 1999, it was decided to use the contractor who provided services in 1998-99. It is expected that the RFP process will be completed in June 2000, when Head Start classes are ending for the summer. These agreements have traditionally been one year agreements, as funding for PSD is on a year-to-year basis. The agreements are effective September 1, 1999 through August 31, 2000.

REVIEW BY OTHER(S): The PSD Policy Council approved the continuing grant application on May 12, 1999, which included the need for transportation services for children. These agreements have been reviewed and approved as to legal form by Ruth Stringer, Chief Deputy County Counsel.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: PSD has included the cost of these transportation services agreements totaling \$ 1,904,855 in its PY 1999-2000 budget. Both of these agreements are totally funded as follows: Agreement No. 3000-9 by SDE/CDD, and Agreement No. 3005-9 by HHS/ACF. There is no County cost.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: James F. White, Director, Preschool Services Department

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors